

## Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 121413Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5798

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 7975

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: SADAT

1. I WAS AGAIN STRUCK YESTERDAY, AS I WAS WHEN I LAST MET SADAT JULY 31, WITH HOW POORLY THE PRESIDENT LOOKED. HE GAVE THE APPEARANCE OF BEING VERY WEARY AND SOMBER. THIS COULD HAVE BEEN INDUCED BY WORRY ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN AND ARAB REACTION TO WHAT FAHMY CALLS THE "MEAGER" AGREEMENT GOE IS LIKELY TO GET OR IT COULD HAVE AN ORGANIC CAUSE. AS I MENTIONED TO YOU, WE HAVE HAD REPORTS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DOCTOR THAT SADAT'S HEART MAY AGAIN BE GIVING HIM TROUBLE AS A RESULT OF TOO MUCH ACTIVITY. HE IS BEING PRESSED BY HIS DOCTORS AND OTHER ADVISORS TO TAKE OFF AT LEAST ONE DAY A WEEK (FRIDAY) IN ORDER TO RELAX AND REST AND APPEARS TO BE MAKING AN EFFORT TO DO SO. IMMEDIATELY AFTER LUNCH, HE TOOK A SLEW OF PILLS. I HAVE SEEN HIM TAKE PILLS BEFORE, BUT NEVER IN THAT QUANTITY.

2. APART FROM HIS APPEARANCE, SADAT WAS NOT HIS USUAL ALERT SELF. HE HAD TROUBLE ABSORBING VARIOUS POINTS AND HAD REPEATEDLY TO HAVE THEM EXPLAINED AGAIN BY MOBAREK, FAHMY, GAMASY OR ME. AFTER HE HAD DELIVERATED PRIVATELY WITH HIS ASSOCIATES AND WAS GIVING ME THE RESPONSE I HAVE ALREADY REPORTED, HIS ASSOCIATES HAD REPEATEDLY TO PROMPT OR REMIND HIM OF POINTS. EVEN WITH THE

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SUBSEQUENT APPEARANCE OF HIS YOUNGEST DAUGHTER, NANA,

WHOSE BIRTHDAY IT WAS AND WHO WAS HER CUSTOMARY AFFECTIONATE SELF WITH HER FATHER, SADAT REMAINED MOODY, QUIET AND EVEN A BIT LISTLESS. MADAME SADAT TOLD ME SHE WANTS HIM TO REST AS LONG AS POSSIBLE IN THE QUIET SURROUNDINGS OF RAS EL-HIKMA, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED SOME FRUSTRATION THAT HE CONTINUES TO BE BESET WITH CALLERS.

3. IN CONTRAST TO MY IMPRESSION, DCM MAESTRONE TELLS ME SADAT SEEMED QUITE ALERT AND QUICK WHEN MEETING WITH CODEL AT MERSA MATRUH ON SATURDAY. HE HAS THE CAPACITY TO FORCE HIMSELF INTO AN ALERT POSTURE WHEN WITH GROUPS OF PEOPLE, BUT SHOWS HIS FATIGUE WHEN WITH SMALLER GROUPS OF ASSOCIATES AND FIRENDS. HE HAS, OF COURSE, HAD A BUSY TIME OF LATE AND IS DEEPLY PREOCCUPIED WITH AREA-WIDE AND DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS.

4. THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THE ABOVE, BUT I THOUGH YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IT. HOPEFULLY, HE WILL HAVE RESTED A BIT BY THE TIME YOUR SHUTTLE BEGINS.  
EILTS

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